



Humanities in the European Research Area

European Research Area

- Address Fragmentation of EU research
- EU funding for national agencies to coordinate policies and programmes
- ERA-NET scheme
- **Not** money for research
- But...ERA-NET+





Humanities in the European Research Area (HERA)

A **network** of national funding agencies committed to:

1. Developing funding opportunities for humanities researchers in Europe
2. Sharing best practice in research management



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HERA goals

- Inform – best practice
- Organise – cooperation
- Strengthen – research and infrastructure
- Disseminate – humanities results



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HERA history

- Odense Conference 2002
- European Network of Research Councils in the Humanities
- Specific Support Action 2003-2004
- Eranet HERA 2005-2009

HERA partners

- Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) - coordinator
- Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC)(UK)
- Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS)
- Danish Agency for Science and Technology Innovation(DASTI)
- European Science Foundation (ESF)



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HERA partners (continued)

- Academy of Finland (AKA)
- Estonian Science Foundation (EstSF)
- Research Council of Norway (RCN)
- Academy of Science Czech Republic (ASCR)
- Rannís – the Icelandic Centre for Research
- Swedish Research Council (VR)
- Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Slovenia (MHEST)



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HERA partners (continued)

- Austrian Science Fund (FWF)
- Fund for Scientific Research – Flanders (FWO)

Associate partners

- Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
- Fonds National de la Recherche Scientifique –
Communauté française (FNRS)
- Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
(CNRS) (Fr)



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HERA projects (2005-09)

- Best practice in peer review
- Best practice in programme management
- European benchmark of research quality and impact
- Research infrastructures in the humanities
- European peer review college

www.heranet.info



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Main objective

Launch 2 transnational research programmes in 2009 :

- Creativity and Innovation
- Cultural Dynamics



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Why HERA is unique in the humanities

- Blue-skies transnational research
- Collaborative
- Interdisciplinary and theme-driven
- Funding and evaluation mechanisms designed by humanities funding agencies adapted to humanities research
- 'common pot' - no 'juste retour' - single transnational evaluation system



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Creativity and Innovation: Themes

- Creative Values: definitions and norms framed in historical and/or contemporary case studies
- Creating Value: “Rigorous research on the value that human creativity might add to individual, public and economic good through innovation”
- Creativity and Innovation in Practice: practical and empirical focus on models of creative practice, creative communities, political and social conditions of creativity.



HERA

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Cultural Dynamics: Themes

- Collective identities before and after the nation-state: types and rhetoric
- Culture as self-reflection: the dynamics and institutions of remembrance and canonicity
- Cultural practices between 'high' and 'low', global and local, performance and ownership

How were themes chosen?

- Mapping exercise (2005)
- 5 shortlisted themes (Network Board 2005)
- Focus groups (2006) – ‘scoping documents’
- Two themes chosen (Network Board 2006)
- Further intellectual development – 2 workshops in June 2007



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Practical Details

- Budget for both calls: ~ 17M euro
- Call will open in early January 2009
- 2 stage evaluation procedure
- Deadline for outline proposals: April 7 2009
- Deadline for full proposals: Sept 1 2009
- Funding decisions in



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Can French Researchers apply?

- Eligibility rule: proposals must contain at 3 partner institutions from 3 different countries contributing to the common pot.
- CNRS is HERA associate member, but does not contribute to the common pot.
- Associate partners allowed, but will not receive funding.
- Projects will be evaluated on core (funded) membership alone – core partnership must be able to ‘stand alone’.



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The door is still open...!



QUESTIONS?